

AMENDED CLAIMS

[received by the International Bureau on 10 november 1999 (10.11.99);
original claims 1-25 replaced by amended claims 1-21 (3 pages)]

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for promoting animal health with animal feed having reduced antibiotic content comprising
- 5 providing an animal feed to animals,
wherein the animal feed comprises an anti-bacterial fatty acid component,
wherein the anti-bacterial fatty acid component is a high lauric acid natural oil, or a derivative thereof having high lauric acid content.
- 10 2. A method according to claim 1, wherein the high lauric acid oil is coconut oil, palm kernel oil, or high lauric acid rapeseed oil.
- 15 3. A method according to claim 1, wherein lauric acid in the high lauric acid oil comprises from 0.5 % to 10 % of the animal feed.
4. A method according to claim 1, wherein the animal feed is essentially free of other antibiotics.
- 20 5. A method according to claim 1, wherein antibiotics present in the animal feed comprise less than 50% of the optimal antibiotic supplement.
6. A method according to claim 1, wherein antibiotics present in the animal feed comprise less than 50% of the maximal antibiotic supplement.
- 25 7. A method according to claim 1, wherein the animals are chickens, turkeys, lambs or veal calves produced for human consumption.
- 30 8. A method according to claim 7, wherein the animal feed comprises less than 50% of the optimal antibiotic supplement for controlling *Salmonella typhimurium*.

9. A method according to claim 7, wherein the animal feed comprises less than 50% of the optimal antibiotic supplement for controlling *Salmonella typhimurium*.

5 *but B'* 10. An animal feed composition comprising
an anti-bacterial fatty acid component,
wherein the anti-bacterial fatty acid component is a high lauric acid natural
oil, or a derivative thereof having high lauric acid content..

10 11. An animal feed composition according to claim 10, wherein the high lauric acid
oil is coconut oil, palm kernel oil, or a high lauric acid rapeseed oil.

12. An animal feed composition according to claim 10, wherein lauric acid in the
high lauric acid oil, or derivative thereof, comprises 0.5 % to 10 % of the animal feed.

15 13. An animal feed composition according to claim 10, wherein the animal feed
composition is essentially free of other antibiotics.

20 14. An animal feed composition according to claim 10, wherein antibiotics in the
animal feed comprise less than 50% of an optimal antibiotic supplement.

15. An animal feed composition according to claim 10, wherein antibiotics in the
animal feed comprise less than 50% of a maximal antibiotic supplement.

25 16. An animal feed composition according to claim 10, wherein antibiotics in the
animal feed comprise less than 50% of an optimal antibiotic supplement for
controlling *Salmonella typhimurium*.

30 17. An animal feed composition according to claim 10, wherein antibiotics in the
animal feed comprise less than 50% of an allowable antibiotic supplement for
controlling *Salmonella typhimurium*.

18. An animal feed composition according to claim 10, wherein the feed composition is feed for chickens, turkeys, lambs or veal calves produced for human consumption.
- 5 19. A method for reducing the antibiotic content of an animal feed which contains antibiotics comprising
replacing all or a portion of the antibiotics in the animal feed with an anti-bacterial fatty acid component to obtain modified feed, wherein the antibiotic effect of the animal feed in enhancing feed efficiency is maintained in the modified feed.
- 10 20. A method according to claim 19, wherein less than 50% of an optimal antibiotic supplement is present in the modified feed.
21. A method according to claim 19, wherein less than 50% of an allowable antibiotic supplement is present in the modified feed.

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